
Shared Beringian Heritage Program CURRENT PROJECTS—MASTER LIST

FY2013:

- Title: **Beringian Messenger Network**

Partner: Institute of the North

Contact: Nils Andreasson, Managing Director, Institute of the North; Karlin Itchoak, Institute of the North; Kristina Baiborodova, Project Coordinator, Russian Federation Liaison, Institute of the North

Collaborators:

- RAIPON (Russian Association of Indigenous People of the North;
- Chukotka Reindeer Herders Association
- Chukotka Association of Marine Mammal Hunters (ChAZTO)
- University of Alaska, Fairbanks
- University of Alaska, Anchorage

Locations: Various locations in Alaska and Chukotka

Duration: 3 years

Funding: FY13 - \$112,005; FY14 - \$38,500; FY15 – \$37,500

Through this project, the Institute of the North will develop a Bering Strait (Beringian) Messenger Network to expand and strengthen the connections within the Beringia region. As an international program that incorporates local concerns, the Shared Beringian Heritage Program faces obstacles in sustaining open and direct lines of communication with regional, national, and international partners. Developing and strengthening effective communication systems will be the hallmark of this program, beginning at the community level and growing to incorporate regional and cross-border components. The Beringian Messenger Network will emphasize a value on traditional knowledge, respect for elders, and a commitment to youth and emerging leaders, while leveraging interest in the Arctic. These components of the program will augment existing efforts by the Beringia Program to open and maintain good communication with our cooperators. The Beringian Messenger Network will evaluate and contribute a facilitative framework to the existing communication systems, while fostering inter- and intra-community, as well as cross-border, relationships. The Beringian Messenger Network will eventually involve community members in a flexible communications system for the Bering Strait region. While involving the Beringia Program in facilitating initial connections, the Network will act as an ad hoc working group for the region, with regular updates about key issues affecting communities on both sides of the border. The network will also share communications from key policy makers, including the

Alaska Congressional delegation, state and federal agencies, and international partners.

- Title: **Chukotka Native Group Demonstration at the Qatnut Trade Fair in Kotzebue, Alaska**

Partner: Northwest Arctic Borough (NWAB)

Contact: Karen Kim Franklin, NWAB; Judith Hassinger, Treasurer, Northwest Arctic Borough; Vika Owens, Russian speaking contact,

Collaborators:

- Uelen Native Group of dancers, carvers, and sewers
- NWAB Sulianich Art Gallery

Locations: Northwest Arctic Borough – Kotzebue

Duration: 1 year

Funding: FY13 - \$21,800

The primary goals of this project are to support the revival of centuries-long tradition of the Native peoples in Beringia interrupted by Cold War as well as to assist with re-establishing of customary cultural ties and traditions. Historically people in this region gathered at the annual fairs to celebrate the Inupiaq lifestyle, trade goods, and learn various skills from each other. A group of Eskimo Native dancers, carvers, and skin sewers from Uelen, Chukotka, Russia, will travel to Kotzebue, Alaska, USA, to take part in several cultural demonstrations. They will demonstrate their art and dancing traditions at the Qatnut Trade Fair dance ceremonies along with 6 to 8 other dance groups from Northwest Arctic Borough and North Slope Borough. The members of this group will also teach their carving and skin sewing skills at traditional arts and crafts workshops. Sulianich Art Gallery will spearhead the organization of the workshops, while the Northwest Arctic Borough will lead the fair planning. The National Park Service (SBHP and WEAR staff) will assist with preparation of the visa free paperwork and travel logistics for the group to travel from Russia to the US.

- Title: **Diomed Island Family Reunification Visit**

Partner: The Native Village of Diomed

Contact: Tandy and Ken Wallack, Circumpolar Expeditions, Etta Akhinga, Tribal Coordinator, Native Village of Diomed, Karen Kazingnuk, Tribal Council President, Native Village of Diomed

Locations: Native Village of Little Diomed, Alaska, Moscow & Chukotka, Russia

Duration: 2 years

Funding: FY13 -- \$38,388 + \$3,706; FY14 -- \$39,694

This project aims to identify and locate relatives of members of the Native Village of Diomedede residing in Chukotka, and to organize one or more reunification visits on Little Diomedede between the Native Village of Diomedede and a group(s) of their Chukotkan relatives. In the years since the relocation of the native residents of Big Diomedede to the Russian mainland, contact between members of the Native Village of Diomedede and their relatives in Russia has been limited. As elders on both sides of the Bering Strait age and die, the ties and shared cultural heritage between the Native Village of Diomedede and their relatives in Chukotka diminish. The Tribal Council of the Native Village of Diomedede has resolved to undertake reunification visits as a means to renew family ties, especially between members of the younger generations, and thereby preserve shared culture and traditions of language, dance, crafts, and subsistence. Some information on the names and location of Chukotkan relatives of Diomedede villagers does exist. Using this information along with site visits to Chukotkan villages and the assistance of agencies and organizations in Chukotka, the project will locate and identify Chukotkan relatives of Diomedede villagers. Thereafter, the project will organize one or more reunification visits on Little Diomedede. In this regard, maximum use will be made of the Chukotka-Alaska visa free program.

- Title: **Traditional Arctic Sports and Games**

Partner: Go North! Adventure Learning

Contact: Mille Porsild, Executive Director, GoNorth! Adventure Learning

Collaborators:

- Committee of Sports and Tourism, Irina Ryabukhina, Head
- Beringia Nature-Ethnic Park, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug
- Ethnography Laboratory in Anadyr, scientists Viktoriya Golbtseva and Vladislav Nuvano (pending the agreement with Chukotka Government)
- Beringia Tour Services (new format)
- Chukotka Science Support Group (pending the agreement with Chukotka Government)
- University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Department of Anthropology, Dr. Sveta Yamin-Pasternak
- University of Colorado, Physics Education Research Group, Dr. Stephanie Viola Chasteen
- Collaboration with scientists from Woods Hole Research Center, NASA, and United Nations Environment Programme

Duration: 2 year
Funding: FY13 -- \$30,000; FY14 -- \$30,000
Locations: Anadyr, New Chaplino, Lorino, Anadyr, Chukotka;
Anchorage, Nome, Alaska

Traditional sports and games are a priceless part of Beringia's cultural heritage. Sports and games are expressions of indigenous ways of life and create a bridge between cultures and people. Traditional Beringian Sports and Games is an adventure learning program to promote, preserve and encourage Beringia's rich tradition of sports and games. In addition to the Beringia Program funding, support is coming primarily from the government of the Chukotka Autonomous region. As the first truly "joint" project, the Beringia Games will serve as a symbol for the ever-closer relationship between Alaska and our neighbors on the Russian side. This project will facilitate indigenous participation in traditional sports and games events across Beringia on both sides of the Bering Strait in 2014 and 2015. Within the framework of an online education program, the experiences will in turn fuel learning with the associated curriculum. Stories, sounds and images will not only inspire and engage the primary target, teachers and learners in Alaska and Chukotka, but will serve to captivate a worldwide audience to discover and explore the riches of Beringia, its heritage and significant value today.

- Title: **Ice Bridge: Profiles of Beringia**

Partner: Sitka Sound Science Center

Contact: Elizabeth S. Arnold, Assistant Professor of Journalism, University of Alaska Anchorage

Collaborators:

- North Pacific Research Board (NPRB)
- Pew Center for the Environment
- University of Alaska, Anchorage (UAA)

Duration: 3 years

Funding: FY13 -- \$48,660; FY14 -- \$46,320; FY15 -- \$47,700

Locations: Anchorage, Alaska. Anadyr, Chukotka

Ice Bridge: Profiles of Beringia is a series of compelling, intimate portraits of people making a difference within Beringia. Each profile will focus on an individual whose life, work or research tells a larger story that is both insightful and instructive to the overall community. These profiles, combined with an interactive website linked to both the Sitka Sound Science Center and the Shared Beringian Heritage Program pages, will connect and inform those in and outside of the region at a time when the entire world is looking toward the North.

This is a critical time for Beringia. A shifting climate has increased attention north in an unprecedented way. Ice Bridge aims to capture and tell these stories, including stories of climate change and its on-the-ground implications, in new and innovative ways, rather than the one-dimensional stories that currently abound. Project Coordinator/Principal Investigator Elizabeth Arnold is a nationally recognized and award winning journalist with more than three decades of national and international experience. Over the three year funding period, Arnold will research, write and produce a minimum of nine radio stories that will be broadcast nationally and will also be available with companion multimedia portraits posted on a central interactive website. By the second year, the material will be translated into Russian at the same site. The long term goal after three years, is the additional participation of other professional journalists and civic journalists on both sides of the Bering Strait, and a continuing stream of content.

- Title: **Nunavak Reindeer Herder's Exchange - CANCELLED**

Partner: The Native Village of Mekoryuk

Contact: Dale Smith, Native Village of Mekoryuk; Albert Williams, President, Mekoryuk IRA Council; Howard Amos, Executive Director, Native Village of Mekoryuk

Collaborators:

- Kawerak
- Reindeers Herders Association of Chukotka

Locations: Nome and Mekoryuk

Duration: 1 year

Funding: FY13 - \$10,000

The project's main goal is to set up a significant and energizing exchange of Native reindeer herders, Youth, Elders and experts between Chukotka and Alaska. This exchange will be organized by the Native Village of Mekoryuk through its cooperation with three partner Chukotka organizations. This project is based on reindeer herding, an age-old tradition of the people of Beringia. It was one of the first modern cross-border projects for Beringia which began in the 19th Century and promises to be the key to Native resiliency and sustainability in the future.

FY 2012

- Title: **Collection of Traditional Ecological Knowledge Regarding Polar Bear Habitat Use in Chukotka, Russia**

Partner: Alaska Nanuuq Commission

Contact: Jack Omelak, Charlie Johnson

Collaborators:

- Association of Traditional Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka (ATMMHC)
- ChukoTINRO

Duration: 3 years

Funding: \$47,000 in 2012, \$47,000 in 2013, and \$47,000 in 2014

Location: Lorino, Lavrentiya, Uelen, Inchoun, Enurmino, Neshkan, Nutepelmen, Vankarem, Ryrkaipi, Yanranai, Rytkuchi, Chukotka.

The Alaska Nanuuq Commission (ANC) will conduct a habitat-use study for polar bears that builds on previous studies using traditional knowledge and local observers in several villages in Chukotka, Russia. The ANC is currently conducting a polar bear habitat use study on the Alaska portion of the shared polar bear population, and in order to get a more complete picture of the changing nature of these habitats it is essential to include the Chukotka population. Scientists and Native leaders alike recognize that the most effective management of shared Bering/Chukchi polar bears and their habitat would require active cooperation among the governments and local people of the United States and Russia. The ANC will work with indigenous hunters' organizations in Chukotka and gather reports on environmental changes in polar bear habitats on the Russian side. Participants and coordinators from Chukotka will travel to Nome to train in data-collection and organization, and also to witness the functioning and processes of the Nanuuq Commission. This 3-year project will produce a report serving to update the report "Traditional Knowledge of Chukotka Native Peoples Regarding Polar Bear Habitat Use," which was conducted by ANC and the National Park Service in 2003.

- Title: **The Current Nutritional and Cultural Needs of the Aboriginal Population of Chukotka to Harvest Gray and Bowhead Whales.**

Partner: Barrow Arctic Science Consortium (BASC)

Contact: Glenn Sheehan

Collaborators:

- Association of Traditional Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka (ATMMHC),
- Chukotka Science Support Group (CSSG)

Duration: 1 year

Funding: \$39,751 in 2012

Location: Barrow, Alaska; Sireniki, New Chaplino, Lorino and Lavrentiya, Chukotka

This project will document and demonstrate the importance of subsistence activities, most importantly the harvest of marine mammals, for Native communities in coastal Chukotka. The Barrow Arctic Science Consortium BASC will work with local non-profit organizations representing the hunters in Chukotka. By working in conjunction with the chosen local cooperators, this project will accomplish two major tasks. The first phase or task will be a core household survey project to be conducted by trained local surveyors. BASC will work with local organizations to collect and record this data. The second phase or task to be completed is a qualitative report that interprets the sampled information to show what the established needs are, to be conducted by a qualified local organization. Products of this research will provide empirical evidence for a "needs statement" to support subsistence claims to harvest Gray and Bowhead Whales to the International Whaling Commission (IWC). Recently, it has become clear from statements made by IWC officials to the representatives of indigenous groups in Chukotka that an updated and more recent needs assessment will be needed to substantiate the 2012 resource allocation decisions. This survey and needs assessment will substantiate and support the need for subsistence hunting of marine mammals for indigenous people in Chukotka.

- Title: **Trans-Beringia Muskoxen — Creation of Ecological Baselines in an Era of Arctic Warming**

Partner: University of Montana

Contact: Joel Berger, John J. Craighead Chair and Professor of Wildlife Conservation, Biological Sciences

Collaborators:

- Ecological Inventory and Monitoring Program, National Park Service Arctic Network, Jim Lawler, Network Coordinator
- Western Arctic National Parklands, Brad Shults, Wildlife Biologist
- Wrangel Island State Zapovednik, Alexander Gruzdev, Superintendent, and Taras Sipko, Scientist

Location: Western Arctic National Parklands, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, Alaska; and Wrangel Island State Zapovednik, Chukotka

Duration: 3 years

Funding: \$39,010 in 2012; \$28,670 in 2013; \$39,101 in 2014

No standard or baseline exists for Beringian mammals. Cooperator will establish baseline conditions for muskoxen within and between populations over time across both the Chukotka and Alaskan Beringian landscapes in a strong

collaborative effort with Russian and American partners. Proposed study areas are CAKR, BELA, and Wrangel Island Zapovednik in Russia. The projects goals are: 1) to gain insights about how climate and other factors affect population change and potential persistence in muskoxen, and 2) to establish ecological baselines. This will be achieved through comparative efforts to understand populations in Chukotka (e. g. Wrangel Island) and eastern Beringia (e. g. WEAR NPS units). Pragmatic on-the-ground approaches will use non-invasive methodology, and concentrate on easily discernible and repeatable metrics associated with body size traits, growth rates, and annual population change. Currently, such an approach is being used at CAKR and BELA in eastern Beringia.

FY 2011

- **Title: Ethnographic Documentation of the Kotzebue Trade Fair**

Partner: Kikitagruk Inupiat Corporation—Changed to KIC Logistics

Contact: Nicole Stoops

Collaborators:

- Indigenous communities in Chukotka

Location: Kotzebue

Duration: 1 year

Funding: \$10,000 in FY 11

The village of Kotzebue, located in Northwest Alaska, hosts an annual trade fair which showcases economic activities and pursuits pertaining to indigenous peoples and the economic development of rural Alaska. Activities at the fair include business seminars, traditional knowledge contests and business competitions. Across the Bering Strait in Chukotka, Russia, the indigenous people live in a similar environment to Northwest Alaska, and engage in many similar traditional activities. The experiences of Alaska natives highlighted during the trade fair are a valuable resource that could be applicable to their Russian neighbors. The fair will be documented and materials will be translated in to Russian. The documentation and transfer of the Alaskan's experience during the trade fair is relevant and useful, and the economic experiences of the Alaska natives could provide lessons for their Russian counterparts. The Trade Fair was held on July 1 & 2 of 2011.

New Projects Funded in FY 2010

- Title: **Beringia: What's Climate Change to You?**

Partner: GoNorth! Adventure Learning

Contact: Mille Porsild

Collaborators:

- Committee of Sports and Tourism, Irina Ryabukhina, Head
- Beringia Nature-Ethnic Park, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug
- Ethnography Laboratory in Anadyr, scientists Viktoriya Golbtseva and Vladislav Nuvano (pending the agreement with Chukotka Government)
- Beringia Tour Services (new format)
- Chukotka Science Support Group (pending the agreement with Chukotka Government)
- University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Department of Anthropology, Dr. Sveta Yamin-Pasternak
- University of Colorado, Physics Education Research Group, Dr. Stephanie Viola Chasteen
- Collaboration with scientists from Woods Hole Research Center, NASA, and United Nations Environment Programme

Location: Provideniya, Sireniki, Yanrakynnot, Lorino, Lavrentiya, and Uelen (pending the final agreement with Chukotka Government)

Duration: 3 years

Funding: \$37,000 in 2011, \$48,400 in 2012, \$49,610 in 2013.

This project was selected for funding in 2010, but was delayed in order to change partners from the University of Minnesota to the University of Alaska and the University of Colorado.

What Is Climate Change to You? is a program that has youth in remote Arctic communities join the scientific effort as our team travels through their communities. Team members work with youth and teachers to establish protocol, leave them with computers, cameras and all necessary field equipment. Youth then continue to collect longitudinal data from the community and surrounding area which they upload to an online environment for scientists to grab and use in their research. Important parts of the research are environmental observations and stories supported by photography about local change. The youth-generated content is used by more than 3 million learners and is broadcasted to teachers in more than 4,500 schools across the 50 U.S. states and on 5 continents. This project aims to establish a local and sustainable framework to deliver *Beringia: What's Climate Change to You?* (WCCY) in Chukotka, Russia. The project's PI, Mille Porsild, was in Chukotka in

summer 2011 working towards the establishment of community “teams” in rural villages to record and observe the local environment. The project was able to establish close working relationship with the Committee of Sports and Tourism, Administration of Chukotka.

- Title: **Bowhead Coastal Observation Project – Chukotka**

Partner: North Slope Borough

Contacts: Craig George, Cyd Hanns

Collaborators:

- Russian Academy of Sciences, Dr. Vladimir Melnikov
- Association of Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka, Eduard Zdor
- Chukotka Science Support Group, Gennady Zelenskiy
- ChukotTINRO, Denis Litovka

Location: Uelen and Sireniki, Russia (may change based on logistics and recommendations of colleagues in Chukotka)

Duration: 3 years

Funding: \$34,022 in 2010, \$39,230 in 2011, \$47,216 in 2012

This project studies the distribution and abundance of the Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas bowhead whale population and document mammal sightings off the coast of Chukotka, from 2010-2012. Continuing coastal observations fills a critical need in continuing the nearly 20-year program, especially now when the effects of climate changes are causing rapid changes in the ecosystem. This research parallels research in Alaska, both of which provides information on regional bowhead populations.

- Title: **Climate Change: a View Through the Prism of Steller's Sea Cow Extinction**

Partner: University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Contact: Dr. Alexander Burdin

Collaborators:

- Florida Atlantic University, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, Dr. O'Corry-Crowe
- Mote Marine Laboratory, Florida; Dr. John Reynolds, III
- Kamchatka branch of the Pacific Institute of Geography
- Russian Academy of Science in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky
- Commander Island State Preserve, Dr. S. V. Zagrebelsky
- Nikolskoe High School and village members

Location: Commander Islands, Chukotka

Duration: 2 years

Funding: \$39,762 in 2010, \$40,305 in 2011

When discovered in 1741, Steller's sea cow had already been reduced from a wide North Pacific range to a relict population around the Commander Islands. By 1768, the last sea cow was killed on Bering Island. While hunting seems to have been the ultimate cause of the species extinction, by collecting and analyzing Steller's sea cow remains, this project will test the hypothesis as to whether factors related to climate change influenced the eventual extinction of this last giant Beringian mammal. Dr. Alexander Burdin will collect field research from the Commander Islands to analyze the process of Stellar Sea Cow extinction.

- Title: **Creating a Modern Map of Submerged Beringia - The Bridge that Endures Time**

Partner: Alaska-Siberia Research Center

Contact: Alexander Dolitsky, Executive Director

Collaborators:

- Oceanus Alaska, Michelle Ridgway, principal investigator
- TJ Howland, Chief of Hydrographic Surveys, Terrasond Limited
- Dr. David Scholl, U.S. Geological Survey and Stanford University
- Candace Stepetin, Pribilovian Native and liaison to Russian and U.S. Native communities.

Location: Submerged Beringian region, Russian and U.S. waters

Duration: 1 year (in FY 2011, Mod 1 extended date to 12/30/11)

Funding: \$35,050 in 2010

The principal investigators will develop a geospatial database of the best available data from the U.S., Russia, and other sources to create a modern seafloor map of submerged Beringia. Both the visual map of modern underwater Beringia and the database generated will serve as a resource for archaeologists examining migration routes between the continents, as well as significantly updated geospatial reference for geologists and other scientists eager to examine undersea life during and subsequent to climate regimes. Cooperator is working with Terrason to create maps and synthesize data. The project will generate maps suitable for dissemination to a wide audience and will publish the map online while providing copies to newspapers and electronic media.

- Title: **Indigenous Knowledge and Use of Bering Strait Region Ocean Currents**

Partner: Kawerak, Inc.

Contact: Julie Raymond-Yakoubian

Collaborators:

- ChukotTINRO
- Pacific Scientific Research Fisheries Center--Dr. Yury Khokhlov

Location: Alaska: Diomede, Wales, Shishmaref. Chukotka: Lorino, Lavrentiya, Inghouk
Duration: 3 years
Funding: \$20,000 in 2010, \$33,251 in 2011, \$45,000 in 2012

This project will document the traditional and contemporary use of and knowledge about ocean currents by three Alaskan and three Russian communities in the Bering Strait region. This knowledge, which includes a record of changes through time, has value for ocean travel and tracking climate change effects, and is quickly being lost with the passing of older generations. The project involves collaboration between an Alaska Native non-profit, Russian researchers, and local communities, and will assist with the on-going process of re-establishing ties broken in the Cold War.

- Title: **Indigenous Language Learning and Documentation in the Bering Strait**

Partner: Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution

Contact: Aron L. Crowell

Collaborators:

- Regional cultural organizations and language programs
- Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska, Fairbanks
- Alaska Native Language Archive, University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Location: Anchorage and Fairbanks, Alaska

Duration: 3 years

Funding: \$35,999 in 2010, \$45,001 in 2011, \$47,616 in 2012

The future of indigenous languages around the Bering Strait is severely threatened. The Arctic Studies Center (ASC) works with elder fluent speakers of the Inupiaq and St. Lawrence Island/Siberian Yupik languages to produce extensive linguistic recordings and documentation of heritage objects (made 1850s-1950s) that are included in the Smithsonian exhibition *Living Our Cultures, Sharing Our Heritage: The First Peoples of Alaska* at the Anchorage Museum. The ASC continues with Beringian region language educators to edit these recordings (video and audio) into language teaching tools and community source books with English alphabet transcriptions and English translations, and Cyrillic transcriptions and Russian translations. Production of teaching films and curriculum materials in St. Lawrence Island/Siberian Yupik will be generated as a result of this project.

- Title: **Telling Our Stories, Vodcasts of the Sugpiaq Collections of the Kunstkamera and the Cape Alitak Petroglyph Survey**

Partner: Alutiiq Museum

Contact: Sven D. Haakanson, Jr., Executive Director

Collaborators:

- WonderVisions, Elizabeth O'Connell
- Peter the Great Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography
- Various Sugpiaq leaders, artists, and anthropologists

Location: St. Petersburg, Russia and Cape Alitak, Alaska

Duration: 2 years

Funding: (Sugpiaq Collection) \$17,812 in 2009 and \$15,265 in 2010 and (Vodcasts) \$18,580 in 2010, \$12,000 in 2011

Two separate projects with the same cooperator and principal investigator merged together and added funding to the first project to include the second project. This funding adds the creation of 12 video podcasts or vodcasts to the production of an annotated catalog of the Sugpiaq Collections of the Kunstkamera, a current project that is reuniting Alaska's Sugpiaq community with ancestral objects stored in the Peter the Great Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. Through vodcasts produced in Russian and English, Sugpiaq leaders, artists, and anthropologists can speak directly to multiple audiences.

- Title: **Health Evaluation of Walrus**

Partner: Eskimo Walrus Commission, Kawerak, Inc.

Contact: Vera Metcalf

Collaborators:

- Arctic Research Commission, Cheryl Rosa
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Gay Sheffield
- ChukotTINRO, Denis Litovka
- Association of Traditional Marine Mammal Hunters (ATMMHC), Eduard Zdor
- Chukotka Science Support Group (CSSG), Gennady Zelensky

Location: Chukotka, Russia

Duration: 3 years

Funding: No funding in 2009, \$25,601 in 2010, \$4284 in 2011 to cover travel cancellation cost in 2011; \$21,400 in 2012

This community based project will proactively monitor walrus as the arctic environment is altered. A multi-disciplinary assessment will be conducted of body conditions and health-related parameters for an important arctic subsistence species. The data collected will advance the knowledge of arctic pinniped biology and will include comprehensive data management plans that will serve as templates for future health assessment and monitoring of the species. This project moved from the North Slope Borough to Kawerak, Inc., due to the change in staffing. In 2010, weather prevented travel to Chukotka to complete field work planned for September.

Continuing Projects Funded in FY 2009

- Title: **Encounters Radio Broadcast**

Partner: The Island Institute

Contact: Lisa Busch

Collaborators: to be determined

Location: Central Beringia subject matter, broadcast nationally

Duration: 2 years

Funding: \$11,000 in 2009, \$15,000 in 2010, \$3,000 in 2011

The Island Institute plans to expand *Encounters: Radio Experiences in the North* to cover more of the circumpolar north by producing two 29-minute segments in the Central Beringia region. *Encounters* is a regular weekly, nationally distributed public radio program about the human traditions of the northern polar region. The program presents scientific information and indigenous knowledge about the natural environment in a widely distributed and easily accessible audio format.

- Title: **Kivatoruk Moses, Inupiaq Artist**

Partner: University of Alaska – Fairbanks

Contact: David Mollett

Collaborators:

Location: Various locations in Alaska

Duration: 1 year

Funding: \$15,000 in 2009

Beringia funding for this project supported field work to gather first-hand accounts from local people who knew or had a connection to native artist Kivatoruk Moses and his work. Principal Investigator David Mollet conducted interviews with people in the communities and is using them for the final book product serving as a catalogue for Moses' artwork. The book will contain a biography, artistic analysis, and collection of high quality reproductions of Moses' work (still in progress). David Mollet plans to create and install a travelling exhibit for museums in the United States and Russia, using the fieldwork and interviews collected as companion pieces to the artwork.

- Title: **Preserving Our Knowledge (Added to 2007-2008 project "Sea Ice Knowledge and Use.")**

Partner: Smithsonian Institution

Contact: Igor Krupnik

Collaborators:

- Institute for Russian Cultural and Natural Heritage, Lyudmila Bogoslovskaya
- Chukotka Local Language/Knowledge Experts
- Shaktoolik Local Language/Knowledge Experts

Location: New Chaplino and Sireniki, Chukotka; Wales, Gambell, and Shaktoolik, Alaska

Duration: 2 years

Funding: \$20,000 in 2009, \$20,000 in 2010

This will be a joint Beringian-focused heritage program to document endangered environmental and subsistence terminologies in five communities in Alaska and Russia: New Chaplino, Sireniki, Wales, Gambell, and Shaktoolik. Cultural and language specialists will collect indigenous terms and will produce illustrated thematic lexicons in St. Lawrence Island/Siberian Yupik and in Inupiaq. . The SIKU (**S**ea **I**ce **K**nowledge and **U**se in the North) book was published in 2011 by Igor Krupnik

- Title: **Understanding the Evolutionary Relationship of Beringian Plants**

Partner: University of Alaska Museum

Contact: Stefanie Ickert-Bond, Curator, UAF Museum Herbarium

Collaborators:

- Komarov Botanical Institute (St. Petersburg), Russian Academy of Sciences Vladimir Yu. Razzhivin, Professor, Co-PI
- Beringia Nature Ethnic Park, Chukotka Autonomous Okrug

Location: 10 localities in the Beringia Nature Ethnic Park, Chukotka

Duration: 1 year (extended 2 year)

Funding: \$25,000 in 2009, \$2,350 in 2010, \$3,223 in 2012 (unexpected costs from being overcharged for field work and delayed samples transfer)

This field project integrated biogeographic and phylogenetic data to unravel the evolutionary relationships among Beringian plants as well as further documented, with specimens, the rich flora of this region. The collected specimens contain 2,325 names, many of which are shared across both Alaska and Chukotka. The project PI plans to use Single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) discovery and genotyping as essential genetic mapping tools. She will target 5 populations (3 from Chukotka and 2 from Alaska) of charismatic *Therorhodon camtschaticum* and *Therorhodon glandulosum* as well as an additional 7 populations of another Beringian taxon.

Continuing Projects Funded in FY 2008

- Title: **Alaska/Chukotka Climate Change Examination**

Partner: West Anchorage High School

Contact: Michele Whaley

Collaborators: Chukotka Multi-Discipline College, Anadyr'

Location: Anchorage, Alaska and Anadyr', Chukotka

Duration: 3 years

Funding: \$28,190 in 2008, \$32,128 in 2009, \$32,128 in 2010

Students from West High School in Anchorage, Alaska, collaborated in a three-year project with high school students from the Chukotka Autonomous Okrug to research the effects of climate change in their regions and discuss the efforts teenagers are making to protect and conserve their environment. Students interviewed Native elders, scientists, and local and regional leaders to gather their data, as well as conducted field work and research during their visits to Anadyr', Chukotka. A group of Anchorage West High School students participated in three of such visits, during the summers of 2008, 2009, and 2011. Summer exchange planned for 2010 was delayed to 2011 and successfully implemented in early summer of 2011. During their last visit the students collected data on disturbed and undisturbed tundra, measured carbon emission at the sites, engaged in bird observations, documenting plant data, and testing water quality. The students also had an opportunity for cultural immersion learning language, Native dances, and ivory carving.

- Title: **Finding the Lost Dances**

Partner: Native Village of Kotzebue

Contact: D'Anne Hamilton

Collaborators:

- Tribal government of the Qikitagrukmiut peoples, Kotzebue, Alaska
- Russian Native youth dancers, New Chaplino and Provideniya, Russia
- Throat Singers in New Chaplino, Russia
- Inuit Circumpolar Conference, Barrow, Alaska

Location: Kotzebue, Alaska; and New Chaplino and Provideniya, Chukotka

Duration: 1 year (extended until January, 2011)

Funding: \$38,667 in 2005, \$26,307 in 2006, \$40,860 in 2007, and \$45,320 in 2008

This is a cross-cultural exchange program between Alaska Native youth of Kotzebue and Russian Native youth of the Chukotka region. It builds off the 2005, 3-year project "Arctic Teens Speak Out." Kotzebue students met with traditional young dancers in New Chaplino and Provideniya and shared impressions about life in their own communities. The visit was documented on

video. The youth are learning post-production skills as they create a documentary. The final DVD is expected January 2011. The production exceeds the original proposal both in quality and scope. Added benefits include community economic development for local video and film production. They are also producing a trailer for Russian communities and partners.

- Title: **Inupiaq Landscapes and Architecture**

Partner: University of Washington

Contact: Carol Jolles

Collaborators:

- Diomedes Traditional Native Knowledge Experts
- Wales Traditional Native Knowledge Experts
- Anadyr' Museum, Galena Diatchkova
- Center for Advanced Research Technologies, Department of Arts and Humanities, University of Washington
- Eskimo Heritage Center, Kawerak, Inc.

Location: Diomedes and Wales, Alaska

Duration: 3 years (extended)

Funding: \$23,700 in 2008, \$6,610 in 2009, \$7,996 in 2010, \$10,000 in 2011, and \$10,000 in 2012

This social science research and educational project will document the cultural, social, and economic changes in the Native villages of Diomedes and Wales during the last 40 to 50 years. Topics to be studied will include Inupiaq place names, subsistence sites, community architecture, and family histories. Project funding and schedule was revised to accommodate change in funding availability in 2009; and the suspension of air transportation to Little Diomedes and the passing away of a team member in 2010.

Continuing Projects Funded in FY 2007

- Title: **Bilateral Walrus Monitoring**

Partner: Eskimo Walrus Commission, Kawerak, Inc.

Contact: Vera Metcalf

Collaborators:

- Association of Marine Mammal Hunters of Chukotka (ATMMHC)
- Naukan Native Cooperative
- Yupik Society of Eskimos of Chukotka
- Chukotka Scientific Support Group (CSSG)

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- Chukotka TINRO
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - University of Alaska Fairbanks

Location: Eight villages of the Chukotskiy and Providenskiy districts of Chukotka: Lorino, Uelen, Inchoun, Enurmino, New Chaplino, Sireniki, Enmelen, Yanrakynnot

Duration: 3 years

Funding: \$32,363 in 2007; \$35,000 in 2008; \$37,500 in 2009

The Pacific walrus is represented by a single stock of animals that inhabits the continental shelf waters of the Bering and Chukchi seas. The population ranges across international boundaries of the United States and Russia. This project continued to develop bilateral relations with Chukotka in a manner that fostered mutual understanding and cooperation, focused on the continued subsistence use of walrus, and helped reestablish cultural connections between Chukotka and Alaska. The final deliverable is a revised map of the range of Pacific Walrus including walrus harvesting communities, known haul-outs, and migration corridors. It will also be translated and produced in Russian, and shared with Chukotkan communities. Expected in 2012

- Title: **Old Whaling Culture in Chukotka**

Partner: University of Alaska Fairbanks, Alaska Museum

Contact: Daniel Odess/Christopher Wolff (SUNY Plattsburgh)

Collaborators:

- The University of Alaska Museum
- Institute of Heritage in Moscow
- The Kunstkamera Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (St. Petersburg)
- Richard Stockton College
- Yup'ik high school student

Location: Provideniya and Nunligran, Russia

Duration: 2 years

Funding: \$35,000 in 2007 and \$35,063 in 2008

This project aims to conduct and report on explanatory archaeological research on the Old Whaling culture in Chukotka, Russia. Alaskan and Russian archaeologists are working together to investigate the Un'an'an culture. This culture dates back to three thousand years ago and was recently discovered in southwestern Chukotka. Presence of this culture was discovered in Alaska, at Cape Krusenstern, in the early 1960s. However, this is the first evidence of the culture found in Russia. Old Whaling is important to Eskimo culture because its members are thought to be the first people to hunt baleen whales

in the Bering Strait area. The research is designed to answer: *What is the nature of the Old Whaling occupation at Un'an'an, and how is it related to the Old Whaling occupation at cape Krusenstern? What evidence is there for cultural ties across the Bering Strait around 3,000 years ago? How did people at Un'an'an make a living, how thoroughly were they adapted to cold-maritime living, and did the people who lived there hunt whales?* Final report is expected in 2012.

- Title: **Reindeer Bridge of Beringia**

Partner: Center for Environmental Economic Development

Contact: Ruthanne Cecil, Faith Fjeld, and Nathan Muus

Collaborators:

- Kawerak Reindeer Herders Association
- University of Alaska at Fairbanks
- Polar Research Archives of the Rasmussen Library
- Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution
- Alaska Native regional organizations

Location:

- Chukotka Peninsula: Anadyr', Lavrentia, and Provideniya;
- Seward Peninsula: Nome, Brevig Mission, Shishmaref, Teller, and Wales;
- Western Arctic: Kotzebue, Buckland, Candle, Deering, and Selawik;
- St. Lawrence Island: Gambell and Savoonga

Duration: 3 years

Funding: \$38,000 in 2007; \$35,000 in 2008; \$35,000 in 2009

Reindeer are not native to Alaska. In the late 1800s, the coming of reindeer and reindeer herding to Alaska created a cultural bridge that forever connected four indigenous Arctic peoples: the Chukchi, the Inupiaq, the Saami, and the Yup'ik. This project will focus on the introduction of reindeer herding in Alaska. The principle investigator will interview descendents of the Saami herders who came to train local herders and will travel to Chukotka to study their contribution to Alaska herding. They will produce a book on the reindeer legacy of Beringia, edited by the Saami Báiki staff and published by the National Park Service with contributions from various researchers and tradition bearers. Expected in 2012